Telephone connections in Andhra Pradesh

1596. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of persons on the waiting list to have a telephone connection in Andhra Pradesh if so, what are the details, district headquarters-wise; and

(b) by when they are likely to get the telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Details are in the enclosed statement. (*See* below)

(b) As per 8th plan objectives, the waiting period for telephone connections is to be reduced to two years in large telephone system and telephone practically on demand in rural/tribal areas, by the end of 8th Plan Period (92—97). The expansion of the exchanges is being planned to meet the above objective accordingly.

Commemorative stamp in honour of Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon

1597. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to release a commemorative stamp in memory of Sardar Pratap Singh Kairon, former Chief Minister and builder of modern Punjab;

(b) if so, by when this will be released; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Department has received requests for issue of a commemorative postage stamp on Shri Pratap Singh Kairon. The matter has however not yet been cleared by Phillatelic Advisory Committee which advises the Department on issue of Special/Commemorative Stamps.

(b) The date of release can be fixed only after decision is taken to issue the stamp.

(c) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Jandiala Exchange in Punjab

1598. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation dated 19th April, 1993 from Shri Bhagat Ram, Ex-M.P. has been received by the Minister about the inconveniences faced by subscribers of Jandiala (Punjab) area due to chronic malfunctioning of Jandiala Exchange;

(b) whether Government are taking steps to modernise the Jandiala Exchange; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be modernised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Complaint dated 19.4.1993 has not been received from Shri Bhagat Ram Ex. M.P. regarding Jandiala Exchange.

(b) and (c) It is planned to replace the existing exchange by electronic C-DOT-512 in 1993-94 and to improve STD Services, 12 channel radio system has been planned for installation in 1993-94.

Caretaker appointed for inspection quarter at Moradabad

1599. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to his letter No. 24-48/91-vj dated 3rd August 1992 and state: